

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

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FM AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5061
INFO USMISSION USUN
AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE

C O N F I D E N T I A L GEORGETOWN 1795

E.O. 11652:GDS
TAGS: OVIP (YOUNG, ANDREW), UNGA, SHUM
SUBJECT: AMBASSADOR YOUNG'S VISIT TO COSTA RICA. DISCUSSIONS
OF HIGH COMMISSIONER PROPOSAL

1. IN DISCUSSIONS AT VARIOUS LEVELS, COSTA RICAN MFA
OFFICIALS EXPRESSED A STRONG DESIRE TO WORK WITH THE US
ON HUMAN RIGHTS ISSUES, PARTICULARLY THE PROPOSAL FOR A
HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR HUMAN RIGHTS. THEY EXPRESSED GRATITUDE
FOR US SUPPORT AND ASSISTANCE IN PROMOTING THE HIGH COMMISSIONER
PROPOSAL, BUT SEE NO CHANGE FOR ITS SUCCESS IN THE GA.

2. IT IS VERY CLEAR, HOWEVER, THAT THE COSTA RICANS HAVE NOT
GIVEN SUFFICIENT THOUGHT TO THE TACTICAL APPROACH FOR THE
FORTHCOMING GENERAL ASSEMBLY. THE COSTA RICANS INFORMED US
THAT THEY HAVE NOT ORGANIZED A LOBBYING EFFORT OR SOUGHT TO
GAIN BROAD SUPPORT FOR THE HIGH COMMISSIONER RESOLUTION. ACTIONS
TAKEN TO DATE HAVE CONSISTED OF CIRCULATING A MEMORANDUM IN
NEW YORK TO PREVIOUS CO-SPONSORS OF THE RESOLUTION AND ARRANGING
THE FIRST WORKING GROUP MEETING. THIS MEETING WAS LATER
CANCELLED DUE TO THE NEW YORK BLACK-OUT. MRS. DE BARISH, THE
COSTA RICAN DELEGATE RESPONSIBLE FOR CO-ORDINATING THE EFFORT,
DEPARTED SHORTLY AFTER FOR SAN JOSE, LEAVING THE
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AUSTRALIAN DELEGATE IN CHARGE OF ORGANIZING FURTHER MEETINGS.
USUN OFFICERS PROVIDED MRS. DE BARRISH WITH A COPY OF THE
LATEST VERSION (AUG. 4) OF THE WORKING GROUP TEXT OF THE HIGH
COMMISSIONER RESOLUTION AND SHE INDICATED THAT SHE WOULD BE BACK
IN NEW YORK IN LATE AUGUST TO CO-ORDINATE FURTHER EFFORTS.
THE COSTA RICANS SHOWED NO SIGNS OF UNEASINESS AT THE LOBBYING
CAMPAIGN BEING CONDUCTED BY THE US AND OTHER WESTERN

COUNTRIES AND NO INCLINATION TO UNDERTAKE ONE OF THEIR OWN.

3. AT THIS POINT, WE RECOMMEND THAT WE CONCENTRATE ON
THE MAIN OBSTACLE TO SUCCESS OF THE PROPOSAL, THE SOCIALIST BLOC.
WE SHOULD GIVE PARTICULAR EMPHASIS TO THE USSR AND YUGOSLAVIA.
WE WOULD SUGGEST APPROACHES IN MOSCOW AND BELGRADE AND ALSO
IN WASHINGTON. AMBASSADOR YOUNG CAN TAKE UP THE SUBJECT IN
NEW YORK AT THE EARLIEST OPPORTUNITY.
BLACKEN

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